

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CAB-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00

EB-07 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 SS-15 NSC-05 L-02 H-02

PA-02 PRS-01 USIA-15 /074 W
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FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5521

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, NL

SUBJ: CIVAIR: DUTCH NEWSPAPER REPORTS KISSINGER-
VAN DER STOEL EXCHANGE

1. LABOR-LEFTIST NEWSPAPER DE VOLKSKRANT REPORTED MARCH
21 THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER AND FOREIGN MINISTER VAN DER
STOEL HAVE EXCHANGED LETTERS ON CIVIL AVIATION ISSUE.

2. ARTICLE, QUOTING "RELIABLE SOURCES", SAYS KISSINGER
RECENTLY CONFIRMED US WON'T TAKE ONE-SIDED MEASURES AGAINST
KLM BEFORE NEW NEGOTIATIONS HAVE BEEN STARTED. AMERICANS
WOULD LIKE TO AWAIT SUMMER VACATION, TO BE ABLE TO DETERMINE
PRECISELY WHETHER AIR TRANSPORT WILL DROP FURTHER AS RESULT
OF ECONOMIC RECESSION. US POLITICAL AUTHORITIES ARE
ANNOYED BY BICERKING ABOUT POSSIBLE RESTRICTIONS ON KLM
FLIGHTS TO US, WHICH CAUSE MORE POLITICAL DAMAGE THAN ECONOMIC
ADVANTAGE TO US AIRLINES.

3. VOLKSKRANT GOES ON TO REPORT THAT KISSINGER HAS
SUGGESTED COMPROMISE OF 18 FLIGHTS PER WEEK, WHICH IT SAYS
IS SIX LESS THAN KLM'S NORMAL SUMMER SCHEDULE AND TEN
MORE THAN AMERICANS FIRST WANTED TO ALLOW. IT NOTES
THAT THIS WOULD NOT SOLVE TRICKY PROBLEM OF TRANSPORT OF
PASSENGERS VIA HOLLAND TO OTHER COUNTRIES. ACCORDING TO
U.S. COMPUTER FORECASTS, RESTRICTION TO 18 WILL NOT
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CAUSE ANY DAMAGE TO DUTCH AIRLINE. AIRCRAFT WOULD GET

LOAD FACTOR OF 65-70 PERCENT AND THIS WOULD BE ECONOMICALLY FAVORABLE. U.S. EXPECTATION IS THAT AIR TRANSPORT IN NEXT FEW YEARS WILL DROP FURTHER BECAUSE ECONOMIC RECESSION IN AMERICA AND EUROPE WILL BE FELT MORE STRONGLY. KLM WOULD THEN HAVE TO RESTRICT ITS FLIGHTS ANYWAY.

4. VOLKSKRANT SAYS IT ISN'T CLEAR YET WHETHER CAB WILL REALLY TAKE ACTIONS AGAINST KLM. IT COMMENTS THAT "FROM AMERICAN SIDE IT HAS BEEN POINTED OUT THAT JURIDICAL FIGHT BETWEEN KLM AND CAB REALLY DOESN'T HAVE ANY SIGNIFICANCE", AND SAYS THAT KISSINGER WILL INTERFERE IF CAB ASKS PRESIDENT FORD TO ORDER KLM TO RESTRICT ITS FLIGHTS. GOULD

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